

GUIDANCE AND PLACEMENT SERVICES DIGEST

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This Digest is used to transmit information pertaining to the four program components of the Missouri Comprehensive Guidance Program: Curriculum; Individual Planning; Responsive Services; and System Support to professional school counselors, placement personnel, career and technical school counselors and administrators at all levels throughout the state.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

ATTENTION PROFESSIONAL SCHOOL COUNSELORS !!!!!!!

The Second Annual Central Missouri State University/DESE Counselor Institute will be held at Central Missouri State University's Central Summit Center in Lee's Summit, Missouri, on Friday, June 23 and Saturday, June 24 8:00-4:00. Topics for the Institute include: Brief Counseling in the School Setting; Legal and Ethical Issues; Introducing Career Clusters; Art Therapy; Introduction to EXCEL; Results Based Evaluation; New Guidance Curriculum; and Writing Effective Guidance Lessons. **Some sessions are all-day sessions and some have limited seating. Registration deadline is Monday, April 17, 2006.**

If you have questions about the Institute, contact Dr. Janelle Cowles, 1334 Lovinger Hall, Central Missouri State University Warrensburg, MO 64093 Phone: 660-543-4341 or by e-mail at cowles@cmsu1.cmsu.edu

PROGRAM COMPONENTS:

(From time to time, resources that are brought to our attention through ASCA listservs or other means that could be used as part of a guidance program will be listed here. The readers are encouraged to investigate the resources and decide whether or not they are appropriate for their programs. Listing of these resources does not constitute endorsement by either our section or DESE.)

{CURRICULUM}

A. UPCOMING EVENTS IN APRIL (FROM ASCA)

Monthly

Alcohol Awareness Month
Counseling Awareness Month
Mathematics Education Month
National Nutrition Month

Child Abuse Awareness Month
Keep America Beautiful Month
National Autism Awareness Month
National Woman's History Month

Daily or Weekly

1st - April Fools Day
2nd – 8th - Week of the Young Child (www.naeyc.org)
3rd – 7th - National Youth Violence Prevention Week (www.violencepreventionweek.org/)
13th - Kick Butts Day (www.kickbutts.org)
16th – Easter
16th – 22nd - National Student Leadership Week
19th - Administrative Professionals Day
21st – 23rd - National Youth Service Day (<http://www.ysa.org/nysd/>)
23rd – 29th Administrative Professionals Week
25th - Holocaust Remembrance Day
27th - Take Our Son/Daughters to Work Day (<http://www.daughtersandsonstowork.org/>)

2nd - International Children's Book Day
2nd – 8th - National Library Week
3rd – 9th - National Public Health Week (www.apha.org/nphw/)
7th - World Health Day
T.B.A. - National D.A.R.E. Day
16th – 22nd - Public School Volunteer Week
17th – 23rd - National Turn Off TV Week
19th-26th Passover (Begins at sundown on the 18th)
23rd – 29th National Volunteer Week
26th – Administrative Professionals Day
24th – 30th - National Playground Safety Week (www.playgroundsafety.org/safetyweek/)
28th - National Arbor Day (www.arborday.org)

B. COMING SOON (SOMETIME IN APRIL) FROM MAPPING YOUR FUTURE: AN ONLINE LIFE SKILLS AND FINANCIAL LITERACY GAME.

The game, Show Me the Future, teaches players the importance of life skills and financial tools necessary that is accessible to anyone, anywhere and at anytime. During the game, players will randomly be assigned a career (with salary, educational requirements, and accompanying student loan debt, if applicable), and family status (married or single with one, two, or three children). The players then make decisions on issues such as housing, transportation, child care and others. After making these decisions, the game reflects on how much money is left in the monthly budget. More importantly students have the opportunity to witness a direct correlation between their wants and needs and their career and financial choices.

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Students can save their scores and play multiple times to determine if they are making more financially sound decisions. To see the complete advertisement, go to <http://mapping-your-future.org/features/smtfadv.htm>

{INDIVIDUAL PLANNING}

A. INFORMATION ABOUT TECHNOLOGY

Technology employment in the United States is growing. There are 17% more workers in the tech industry than there were during the height of the dot.com boom in the late 1990s. The Bureau of Labor Statistics forecasts a 30% increase in tech jobs in the United States over the next decade. American companies are keeping high-skilled jobs that require face-to-face interaction on U.S. shores and outsourcing all work that can be done “over the wire.” India is still the preeminent destination for this work. The wage demands of India’s highly educated, English-speaking workers are still a bargain for American companies. The average annual income in India is \$737, compared to \$42,027 in the United States. College-educated Indian workers earn one-fifth of what their counterparts in the United States make and often work 12-hour days, six days a week.

Source: Keith Naughton, “Outsourcing – Silicon Valley East,” *Newsweek*, March 6, 2006. [Link](#)

B. FREE INFORMATION ON CAREERS:

This information is available from Federal Resources for Educational Excellence, which resulted from more than 30 Federal agencies forming a working group in 1997 to make hundreds of Federally supported teaching and learning resources easier to find. To access the information, go to: <http://wdcrobcolp01.ed.gov/cfapps/free/displaysubject.cfm?sid=9&subid=79>

C. ANOTHER SOURCE OF INFORMATION

High School Counselor Week is a free e-newsletter for high school counselors, college admissions and financial aid directors and staffs, consultants, and others involved in the college admission process.

Each week, 48 weeks of the year, the originator will search through thousands of articles in the nation's newspapers and magazines looking for those stories and items related to college admissions. The information will be compiled into an easy-to-scan e-newsletter, each item linked to the full story, and delivered right to your e-mail inbox. Free.

To save you time, the newsletter will be divided into four regional editions, beginning with the Northeast Region and phasing in the others, so that stories meaningful only to one particular geographic area appear in just that region. National and professional news, of course, is carried in ALL editions, so those who sign up before an edition for their region is activated will receive the Northeast Edition initially, and the correct region soon after. To visit the site for more information, go to <http://hscounselorweek.com/>

D. HELPING STUDENTS EXPLORE CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Missouri's Department of Economic Development provides an excellent resource of occupational statistics through the Missouri Economic Research and Information Center (MERIC). Teachers and counselors are encouraged to incorporate the various reports and resources available on this website into their career exploration lessons.

Information on the MERIC website can help students understand salaries and demands for a wide variety of occupations in Missouri.

{RESPONSIVE SERVICES}

A. JOIN TOGETHER NEEDS YOUR HELP

Join Together, which is a program of the Boston University School of Public Health, has launched an important new project to learn what is actually happening at the classroom level in alcohol and drug prevention education, and what tools and information are needed for teachers to be as effective as possible. Schools have always been viewed as an important part of alcohol and drug prevention education, and teachers and administrators should have the best possible support in providing effective alcohol and drug prevention programs.

Join Together is asking for your help with the first phase of this project; completing a brief, anonymous online survey of K-12 teachers, administrators and other key school staff. If you would like to take the survey, go to <http://www.jointogether.org/educators>.

The results of the survey will be shared with the organizations that provide materials, training and support for teachers to help them respond to the needs identified by the teachers. Join Together will send a full report on what they learn to everyone who

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participates in the survey and to key officials throughout the country. If you desire further information on this project, go to www.JoinTogether.org

B. INFORMATION ON DRUGS AND HIV

More than 40 million people are living with HIV worldwide, including 5 million new cases in 2005 alone. For the United States, the latest numbers indicate that by 2004, 1 million Americans were living with HIV - and one in four of them did not know it.

Behaviors associated with drug abuse are among the main factors in the spread of HIV infection in the United States.

Drugs can change the way the brain works, disrupting the parts of the brain that people use to weigh risks and benefits when making decisions.

A site is available that connects you to information about the link between drug abuse and HIV infection. It contains information specifically created for [young people](#) and for [parents and teachers](#), with links to latest research findings and [news updates](#). To visit the site, go to <http://www.hiv.drugabuse.gov/>

{SYSTEM SUPPORT

A. COUNSELOR ADVOCACY SUGGESTIONS FOR APRIL -Provided by Missouri School Counselor Association (MSCA)-Joni Rost and Jennifer Frankenberg, Advocacy/Public Relations Co-Chairs:

- Send thank you notes to students, staff, administrator, or support personnel
- Prepare newsletter for parents and staff

“There ain’t much fun in medicine, but there’s a good deal of medicine in fun.” Quote by Josh Billings

B. SITES FOR THOSE SEEKING COUNSELOR POSITIONS.

There are a number of web sites that people may visit when looking for counseling positions. Those brought to our attention included:

1. One that includes state listings through Cooperating School Districts (CSD) at <http://www.moreap.net/index.php>; and a similar one that includes listings in other states at <http://www.usreap.net/>

2. One sponsored by SuccessLink and Dese that only lists Missouri jobs. It may be visited at <http://www.moteachingjobs.com/>

CONFERENCES/ WORKSHOPS OF NOTE:

A. THE SECOND ANNUAL CENTRAL MISSOURI STATE UNIVERSITY/DESE COUNSELOR INSTITUTE WILL BE HELD AT LEE’S SUMMIT, MISSOURI, FRIDAY, JUNE 23 AND SATURDAY, JUNE 24 8:00-4:00

B. AMERICAN SCHOOL COUNSELOR ASSOCIATION (ASCA) ANNUAL CONVENTION, JUN 24-27 IN CHICAGO ILLINOIS. For information, go to <http://www.schoolcounselor.org/>

C. 12TH ANNUAL CHARACTER EDUCATION CONFERENCE-JULY 13-15, 2006, HYATT REGENCY UNION STATION HOTEL-ST. LOUIS For information, go to: <http://www.characterplus.org/main.asp?nID=425&NavID=2>

D. 20TH ANNUAL HIGH SCHOOLS THAT WORK (HSTW) SUMMER CONFERENCE, ORLANDO WORLD CENTER MARRIOTT IN ORLANDO, FLORIDA, JULY 12 - 15, 2006. For information, go to <http://www.sreb.org/programs/hstw/professionalDev/SummerConference/2006Conferenceindex.asp>

E. MISSOURI ASSOCIATION OF CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION (MOACTE) SUMMER CONFERENCE, JULY 24-27, 2006 IN SPRINGFIELD For information, visit <http://www.mo-acte.org/>

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